

REMARKS

The disclosure is objected to because the serial numbers of two co-pending applications were not included on page 1 of the specification. At the time of filing, this information was not available and therefore the specification, as filed, included the title, filing date and attorney docket number of the two co-pending applications. The specification has been amended to include the serial numbers. Accordingly, Applicants request the withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

The Office Action notes that the exact claim for priority in the current application is unclear and therefore has required clarification. The present application claims the benefit (under 35 U.S.C. 119(e)) of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Numbers 60/249,989, 60/269,150, 60/269,152, and 60/276,651. The present application claims priority (under 35 U.S.C. 120) from U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application Serial Numbers 10/040,286 and 10/038,099. Of the four provisional patent applications, serial number 60/249,989 entitled *Method and Apparatus for Fiber Bragg Grating Production Using Solid-State Lasers* is most closely related to the present application. It provides clear support for the presently claimed invention. All of the inventors named on this provisional application are named inventors in the current application. Another of the four provisional patent applications, serial number 60/269,152 entitled *Efficient UV Generator* discloses certain aspects of the claimed invention, such as the walkoff-free frequency-doubler and frequency-quadrupler. All of the inventors named on this provisional application are named inventors in the current application. Another of the four provisional patent applications, serial number 60/269,150 entitled *External Frequency Conversion of Surface Emitting Diode Lasers* discloses certain aspects of the claimed invention, such as techniques for frequency conversion. All of the inventors named on this provisional application are named inventors in the current application. The last of the four provisional patent applications, serial number 60/276,651 entitled *End-Pumped Laser Using High-Brightness Diode Laser Pump Source* discloses certain aspects of the claimed invention, such as IBC laser pumping means. All of the inventors named on this provisional application are named inventors in the current application. The two non-provisional patent applications disclose and claim different methods and apparatus for producing fiber Bragg gratings. These two applications claim the same inventorship as one another and one of the named inventors is also an inventor in the present application.

Applicants submit that the priority claim has been clarified and therefore requests withdrawal of the objection.

The drawings filed with the application were objected to as being informal but found acceptable for purposes of examination. The Office Action notes that acceptable drawings are required in response to this Office Action. Formal drawings are filed herewith. Accordingly Applicants request the withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Claims 26, 51 and 54-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, “the active laser means” recited in claim 26 was found to lack antecedent support. The term “the CLBO crystal” in claim 51 was found to lack antecedent support. Claims 54-56 were found to be indefinite as they refer to the “apparatus” of claim 53 even though claim 53 defines a method. Claims 26, 51 and 54-56 have been amended to overcome the indefiniteness objection. Accordingly Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 26, 51 and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1-7, 18, 19, 27-32, 36, 40, 46, 51 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Arbore et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0031411). As noted above, the present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Numbers 60/249,989, filed November 20, 2000; 60/269,150, filed February 15, 2001; 60/269,152, filed February 15, 2001; and 60/276,651, filed March 16, 2001. As the filing dates of these provisional applications and therefore the priority date of the current application are all prior to the effective filing date of Arbore et al. (i.e., August 10, 2001), Applicants submit that this publication should be removed as a reference. Accordingly Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7, 18, 19, 27-32, 36, 40, 46, 51 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).


Claims 8-13, 15-17, 20-24, 26, 33-35, 38, 39, 41-45, 47-50 and 54-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arbore et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0031411). As noted above, the priority date of the present application precedes the effective filing date of Arbore et al. and therefore submit that this publication should be removed as a reference. Accordingly Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8-13, 15-17, 20-24, 26, 33-35, 38, 39, 41-45, 47-50 and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The Examiner has kindly noted the allowability of claims 14, 25, 37 and 52 if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For the reasons

noted above, Applicants believe that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance and therefore have not rewritten claims 14, 25, 37 and 52.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (415) 393-2404.

DATE: 12/18/03 Respectfully submitted,

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